

The CHRISTIAN NEIGHBOR

A MESSENGER FROM PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Vol. 3

3895 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland 11, December 24, 1944

No. 42

Faith Vindicated

Last Sunday the U. S. Army gave permission to the former Japanese residents of California to return to their homes. This is the vindication of our faith that the fundamental basis of the American way of life is justice and equality. There are always some who believe that justice is not the same for everybody nor humanity equal even in America, that certain persons because of race, birth or economic status have special privileges which may be denied to others. There was always room to suspect that the drive back of the evacuation was the expression of this foreign and nefarious doctrine and a war-time hysteria. While the war is still on, and in opposition to a certain number of persons who even threaten to take the law into their own hands and persecute any of this minority who dare to return, the army has done the thing that is in line with our American principles of fair play showing us that in spite of the war fevers and fears our democracy is basically sound.

The privilege of returning to their homes—if they choose to do so—undoubtedly has come as a great Christmas present to that group of Americans who had been exiled to a desert land while their sons were dying in battle for the country which had found it necessary to uproot them. The vindication of our faith in American democracy is a splendid Christmas present to all of us.

May our fellow citizens find many friends among us when they come back home.

Robert Inglis

Christmas Greeting

The family at the parsonage wish for each of you a joyous Christmas time. May your courage and faith and good will rise in your hearts as the sun rises on Christmas day. Through the darkness of these times and through the fear and concern of many whose dear ones are in grave danger, a very bright star shines. That star can lead us out of darkness and the shadow of death. Christmas reminds us that the Christ was once a child like unto your child.

Christmas Carol

The earth has grown old with its burden of care,

But at Christmas it always is young.

The heart of the jewel burns lustrous and fair,

And its soul full of music breaks forth on the air,

When the song of the angels is sung.

It is coming, old earth, it is coming tonight!

On the snowflakes that covered thy sod

The feet of the Christ-child fall gentle and white

And the voice of the Christ-child tells out

That mankind are the children of God.

On the sad and the lonely, the wretched and poor,

The voice of the Christ-child shall fall;

And to every blind wanderer open the door

Of a hope that we dared not to dream of before,

With a sunshine of welcome for all.

The feet of the humblest may walk in the field

Where the feet of the holiest have trod;

This, this is the marvel to mortals revealed

When the silvery trumpets of Christmas have pealed,

That mankind are the children of God.

Phillips Brooks

—Poems for Life

The Giving of White Gifts at The Nativity Pageant

Girls of the 7th and 8th grades of Plymouth Sunday School dressed in gay old fashion costumes will sing carols at both the Howe Street and Piedmont Avenue entrances to the church. As each person enters the church one of the girls, holding an offering plate, will receive his or her gift of money. Let each one, as he makes his gift, remember the Greek children to whom the money will go.

Plan to Join Plymouth
Church December 31st

CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY PAGEANT

6:30 p. m.

White gifts will be collected at the door as people enter

Distant Carols

"The First Noel"—Grades 3 and 4

"What Child is This"—Grades 3 and 4

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"—Grades 5 and 6

"Silent Night"—Grades 1 and 2

"O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings"—Mrs. E. Bansmer and Church Choir

Prophet Scene

Deuteronomy 18:15 —Robert M. Smith

Isaiah 11:1-2 —Don Hansen

Malachai 3:1-2 —Gene Ramey

Isaiah 9:2-3 —Richard Thomas

Zechariah 9:9 —Rodger Vaughen

Isaiah 42:1 —Jack King

Matt. 2:6 —Bill Menge

Isaiah 60:1 —John Sandhoff

Isaiah 9:1-3; 11:4 —Gwynfi Jones

Scripture—Luke 1:68-70, 78-79

"And the Glory of the Lord"—church choir

"Ave Maria"—(Gounod).....Dorothea Hightower (violin obligato)

Annunciation Scene

Angel—Jane Smith

Mary—Greta Nelson

"Magnificat"—Mrs. A. Pirie

"Glory be to the Father"—church choir

Scripture—Luke 2:1-7

Manger Scene

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"—Grades 1 and 2

Processional—"O Come All Ye Faithful"—Combined choirs

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"—Combined choirs

Angels—Joan Dustin, Marianna Welch, Dorothy Carlson, Elaine Saunders,

Anne Smith, Dorothy Riley, Winifred Tarpey, Martha Tarpey, Mary

Maynard, Adele Schlanger, Marjorie Lancaster, Patricia Blidberg

"Jesu Bambino"—Edith Zelaya, Leona Bansmer

Virgin's Lullaby—Greta Nelson

"Away in a Manger"—Kindergarten

Scripture—Luke 2:8-13

"Glory to God in the Highest"—church choir

"He Shall Feed His Flock"—Mrs. Gilmore

Shepherds—Sumner Johnson, Bob Anderson, Dudley Westler, Curtis

Knight

"Come Unto Me"—Edith Zelaya

Scripture—Matt. 2:1-2, 11

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"—Jim Bobet, David Smith, Bob Inglis

"O Holy Night"—Mac Arlett

"Gloria in Excelsis"—church choir

"Silent Night"

Lighting of candles

Benediction

Audience quietly leave sanctuary carrying lighted candles

DIRECTOR, MRS. ROBERT INGLIS

ASSISTANTS, MISS MARY COXHEAD, MISS ALICE L. SANDERSON, MR. PAUL LUYKEN

We wish to acknowledge with appreciation the time and effort of many persons who have cooperated generously in this Christmas Eve service of adoration. Special mention should be made of Mr. and Mrs. Mac Arlett who are in charge of make-up, Mr. Oser Price who is in charge of lanterns, the ladies of the church who helped with costumes, the Church School superintendents and teachers, Mr. Jones, Mr. Pirie and the Church Choir.

Order of Service

Sunday Morning at Eleven

PRELUDE—"Overture"Handel

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN NO. 92—"O Come All Ye Faithful"

INVOCATION FOLLOWED BY LORD'S PRAYER

THE GREAT COMMANDMENTS

The Minister: "Ye are my friends," said Jesus, "if ye do whatsoever I command you."

The People: *Thou wilt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*

The Choir: *Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

The People: *A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another, even as I have loved you.*

The Choir: *Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee. Amen.*

ANTHEM—"The Birthday of the King"Neidlinger
(Soloist, Leona Bansmer)

BAPTISMAL SERVICE

ANTHEM—"The Infant Jesus"Yon
(Soloist, Morton Cathro)

SCRIPTURE—Isaiah 42:1-7 and Luke 2:15-20

THE PASTORAL PRAYER AND RESPONSE

HYMN NO. 95—"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (first tune)

OFFERTORY—"Christmas Fantasia"Dudley Buck

THE DOXOLOGY

ANTHEM—"O Holy Night"Adam

SERMON—"God Is With Us"

THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE—"Hallelujah Chorus"Handel

Holy Night

Let us be silent for a little while
This holy night
Let us go out where the silver winter stars
Hang still and white,
And let us find His star, and stand beneath
Its drenching light.

We will be calmer for the time alone
Where still things are;
We will be stronger than we were before,
And cleaner, far,
For the brief time beneath the showering light
Of one white star.

Grace Noll Crowell



Youth in Christian Action

Junior High

At the meeting last Sunday afternoon the following officers were elected: President, Sumner Johnson; Vice-President, Varea Abbott; Secretary, Joyce Burton; Treasurer, Bob Anderson. Since an organization never rises higher than its officers, we are pleased to have these four young people assuming responsibility and leadership for this newly organized group.

Their first party will be held this Friday, Dec. 22nd, from 7:30 to 10:30 p. m., in the game room of Plymouth Center. There will be no Sunday afternoon meeting until the first Sunday in January, the 7th.

Torch Club

There will be no meeting this Sunday on account of the Christmas Pageant in which everyone will be participating.

The group will go caroling from the church at 9 p. m. Christmas Eve, after which they are invited to the home of Dudley Westler.

The following persons will attend the Pilgrim Fellowship Midwinter Conference held at Stockton Dec. 27-29: Mary Maynard, Jack King, Dudley Westler and Earl Owens.

Brownies

Brownie Girl Scout Troop 53, under the leadership of Mrs. Milliken and Mrs. Friz, received four very rewarding letters in response to the Christmas boxes which they sent to Filipino service men. Excerpts from Sgt. Marcelo Badue's letter are as follows: "Fine words can never say how happy I am to have received a fine gift from you. In return, allow me to compliment you for your honest effort in cheering us far away. Once again we feel as if we are in the home front with you. May God the Almighty King let stand the Brownie Girl Scout Troop No. 53 with wonderful success."

Schedule of the Week

Sunday, December 24—

9:45 a. m.—Church School

11:00 a. m.—Worship in the Sanctuary

11:00 a. m.—Church Hour Kindergarten in MacDonald Hall.

Wednesday—

Red Cross meeting omitted this week.

Thursday—

7:45 p. m.—Choir Practice

7:30 p. m.—Boy Scout Troop 51

Plymouth Notes

For Our Cradle Roll. Born Dec. 7, Suzanne Carol, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Vanier; Dec. 8, Nancy Elizabeth, daughter of Lt. Commander and Mrs. Jas. Donald Cooper.

Born November 6, Linda Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Barton Van Sickle.

To be baptized this Sunday morning: Stephanie Eugenie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. P. Reckas.

Part of the chancel decorations today have been placed there in memory of Doris Gilmour.

Craft Nighters. There will be no Dec. meeting of the Family Craft Night. Be sure to mark Jan. 26th on your calendar. On that night will be held the Jan. meeting of Family Craft Night.

Well Baby Clinic. The Well Baby Clinic will be closed Dec. 26th and Jan. 2nd.

A Christmas greeting to our people has been received from our Minister Emeritus, Harry S. McCready, from the Baldy View Sanitarium, where he is a patient, at 701 Hill Drive, San Gabriel, California.

Day Dawn of the Heart

'Tis not enough that Christ was born

Beneath the star that shone,

And earth was set that holy morn

Within a holy zone.

He must be born within the heart

Before he finds a throne,

And brings the day of love and good,

The reign of Christlike brotherhood.

Author Unknown

—Poems for Life

THE MINISTRY AT PLYMOUTH

Robert Inglis	Minister	Huber Burr	Parish Assistant
Harry S. McCready	Minister Emeritus	Gwynfi Jones	Choir Director
Alice L. Sanderson	Assistant to the Minister	Alexander Pirie	Organist
Mary Coxhead	Community Service	Paul Luyken	Custodian
Alice L. Osborne	Secretary	Esther M. Snyder	Parish Worker

OFFICE HOURS

Mr. Inglis	1:00 to 2:30 daily except Monday	Miss Coxhead	9:00 to 12:00 daily except Monday
Miss Osborne	9:00 to 5:00 daily except Monday	Miss Sanderson	10:00 to 12:00 daily except Monday
Office Telephone Number—	Piedmont 5300	Parsonage Telephone Number—	Olympic 9073

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